

**WMO OMM**

World Meteorological Organization
Organisation météorologique mondiale
Organización Meteorológica Mundial
Всемирная метеорологическая организация
المنظمة العالمية للأرصاد الجوية
世界气象组织

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Ref.: 19555/2022-17/ONM

Our ref.: 19555/2022/I/ONM/UAS-DC

24 August 2022

Annex: 1

Subject: Further information on, and consideration of participation of your organization in the WMO INFCOM Uncrewed Aircraft Systems Demonstration Campaign (UAS-DC), March to August 2024

Action required: Consideration of your country's contribution to the WMO UAS Demonstration Campaign through your response to the related WMO survey as soon as possible, but no later than **30 September 2022**

Dear Sir/Madam,

WMO previously advised you (ref. 19553/2021/I/ONM/UAS-DC dated 31 August 2021), of the developing concept and plans to hold a demonstration campaign on Uncrewed Aircraft Systems by the WMO Commission for Observation, Infrastructure and Information Systems (INFCOM). I am pleased to inform you that, in March 2022, the INFCOM Management Group provided its endorsement of the Plan for the UAS Demonstration Campaign to be held from March to August 2024.

The length of the campaign has been shortened to six months and it is intended to hold two intensive observing periods of one month in duration during the campaign.

The aims of the UAS-DC are attached in the [annex](#) to this letter.

In addition to the development of the Plan for the UAS-DC, INFCOM and the Joint Expert Team on Aircraft-Based Observing Systems (JET-ABO) have over the past 12 months been undertaking a range of developmental and promotional activities, including:

- Development and maintenance of the [UAS-DC Community Platform website](#)
- Ongoing communications, meetings and promotions with potential UAS participant operators in the meteorological and related science communities
- Development of a UAS data representation model and CF-NetCDF data format
- Communications and engagement with the data user and airspace regulatory communities.

The success of the UAS-DC will depend largely on a strong contribution from Members to assure as wide a geographical and temporal coverage of UAS observations as possible throughout the campaign. Additionally, it will require the participation of the data user community to measure the impact and utility of the data generated. Members are urged to collaborate in related research and the private sector where necessary and where possible so as to participate in the campaign.

To: Permanent Representatives of Members with WMO

cc: Hydrological Advisers

Further information will be provided at the upcoming Second Session of INFCOM in October 2022.

Updated Survey of Participation in the UAS-DC

Given that there is more certainty regarding the holding of the UAS-DC, you are invited to again consider whether your country and organization has the capacity to contribute to the UAS-DC through an updated response to the related WMO survey of Members. Please note that a response to the survey does not constitute a commitment or undertaking to participate in the campaign but will be used to measure potential interest and possible participation. Information is also sought regarding other national research or private agencies or organizations that may play a role in the campaign. Please undertake your organization's response to the [survey online](#).

For direct communication regarding the campaign or any questions or difficulties with the survey, please contact WMO at: uas-demo@wmo.int

I wish to take this opportunity to thank you for your ongoing support of WMO Programmes and activities.

Yours faithfully,



Dr Wenjian Zhang
for the Secretary-General

**AIMS OF THE WMO UNCREWED AIRCRAFT SYSTEMS DEMONSTRATION CAMPAIGN
(UAS-DC)**

Ref.: 19555/2022-17/ONM

1. To demonstrate current capabilities of a range of UAS and to assess their capacity to contribute to meeting operational requirements for upper-air observations and the filling of observational gaps of the WMO Integrated Global Observing System (WIGOS) Global Basic Observing Network (GBON).
 2. To demonstrate the capacity of UAS and their data-processing systems to collect and provide data in an interoperable format ready for use by relevant applications and modelling centres for real time and offline use by regional and global forecast systems.
 3. To measure, analyse and report on the impacts and benefits of UAS observations on relevant WMO application areas and forecast system performances.
 4. To determine and report on areas of development and improvement required for UAS to adequately meet requirements to efficiently, economically and environmentally-responsibly contribute to WIGOS; and
 5. To determine and make recommendations relating to regulatory requirements imposed on UAS that impact on their ability to contribute to WIGOS.
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